

Year 8

Term 1 Curriculum Overview



Students at Burwood GHS are exposed to a broad curriculum in Year 8 in line with the mandatory requirements outlined by the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) for each Key Learning Area.

A typical day will involve four 80/85-minute periods broken up as follows:

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

Roll Call	8:45-8:55am	Period 3	11:50-1:10pm
Period 1	8:55-10:10am	Lunch	1:10-2:00pm
Recess	10:10-10:30am	Period 4	2:00-3:15pm
Period 2	10:30-11:50am		

Tuesday

Roll Call	8:45-8:55am	Period 2	11:10-12:30pm
Period 1	8:55-10:10am	Lunch	12:30-1:10pm
Study period	10:10-10:40am	Period 3	1:10-2:00pm
Recess	10:40-11:10am	Period 4	2:00-3:00pm

Students follow a fortnightly timetable, with weeks broken up into Weeks A and B. A typical fortnightly timetable will include:

English	6 periods	Mathematics	6 periods	Science	6 periods
History	4 periods	PDHPE	3 periods	Technology	4 periods
Languages	3 periods	Music	4 periods	Art	2 periods
Sport	2 periods				

This year, students will also be participating in the Renaissance Reading Program with the School Librarian, Maria Sander Burns. More specific information will be provided on this program.

English

Head Teacher: Pauline Hageman

Class Teachers

8A	Mr Whittemore	8D	Mr Gallaway	8G	Ms Tran
8B	Ms Coleman	8E	Ms Marx & Ms Tran		
8C	Ms Lazos	8F	Mr Carey		

Topic: From Page to Screen

Overview: Students will examine the metalanguage of visual literacy and how to analyse visual texts. They will start with looking at print advertising, move onto picture books and then view a film adaptation and learn how to analyse a film.

Wordflyers: Every fortnight in class, students will be utilising the Wordflyers program. Wordflyers is an online program which develops students' comprehension, grammar, punctuation and spelling skills.

Assessment: Listening/ viewing/ representing task where students view an excerpt from a film and analyse the visual techniques in the film, writing their responses in STEEL paragraphs.

Mathematics

Head Teacher: Gavin Parker

Class Teachers

8A	Ms Field	8D	Mr Campbell	8G	Ms Thanos
8B	Mr Parker	8E	Mr Hi		
8C	Ms Fletcher	8F	Ms Ha		

Topic: All areas of the Mathematics Syllabus are covered up to and including Stage 5.3.

Overview: Students will utilise Maths Pathways to master content modules in their zone of proximal development for each focus area. These modules are divided into the following content areas:

- Number and Algebra
- Measurement and Geometry
- Statistics and Probability

In addition, students participate in activities designed to encourage positive learning habits, an open mindset and critical thinking

Assessment: Students are able to nominate completed modules for assessment. Assessment occurs approximately once a fortnight and includes both pen and paper and online assessment. Students need to master each module to move on.

Science

Head Teacher: John van Leeuwen

Class Teachers

8A	Ms Burkitt	8D	Ms Nguyen	8G	Ms Thomson
8B	Ms Silva	8E	Mr Marcs		
8C	Mr Richardson	8F	Ms Kaur		

Topic: *All Systems Go*

Overview: Students learn about the various aspects of cells. This includes a study of the parts and functions of plants and various systems of the human body including the digestive and respiratory systems.

Assessment: Students will have a presentation task as well as a written assessment.

Human Society and Its Environment

Head Teacher: Alecia Brown

Class Teachers

8A	Mr Dassios	8D	Mr Wines	8G	Mr Dassios
8B	Mr Stewart- Thomson	8E	Mr Irving		
8C	Ms Foon	8F	Mr Dassios		

Topic: Landscapes and landforms (Geography)

Overview: Students learn about the processes that form and transform environments, their value and the effect of human activity on environments.

Assessment: Students investigate a global landscape of their choosing - its formation, value and the effect of human activity on the environment. Students will also complete a study on a city to be considered as the World's Most Liveable City. A skills test will incorporate the various geographical skills they have developed throughout the year.

Personal Development, Health and Physical Education

Head Teacher: Olga Dalageorgos (Relieving)

Class Teachers

8A	Ms Lindsay	8D	Ms Credlin	8G	Ms Coulson
8B	Ms Credlin	8E	Ms Osbourne		
8C	Ms Lindsay	8F	Ms Gianotti		

Topic: We're All Different

Overview: This unit allows students to explore and develop a deeper understanding of valuing diversity and promoting inclusivity to promote health and wellbeing, and plan and implement strategies that will enhance connections within the community.

Assessment: Students will independently research different relationships formed between diverse groups in society and investigate different methods of interaction. Students will utilise this information to create an engaging and relevant activity that promotes equality and respect among teenagers and the select group, in pairs. The concept will be presented to the class and evaluated on effectiveness.

Music

Head Teacher: Brett Cheshire/Mathew Baldwin (Relieving)

Class Teachers

8X	Mr Del Riccio	8Y	Mr Neville
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Students have elected to study either Music or Visual Arts in Year 8. Not all students will be studying Music in Year 8.

Topic 1: Blues and Jazz

Overview: Students learn about the genre of Blues and its harmonic and melodic structure. They do this via performance, composition and listening skills exercises. They will briefly look at Dixieland Jazz and the use of Dorian Mode in jazz improvisation.

Assessment: Students will perform in the style. They will have a composition task (writing a blues verse) and a listening assessment. Students will also engage in a range of aural and musicology tasks throughout the term.

and

Topic 2: Instruments of the Orchestra

Overview: Students learn about the instruments of the Orchestra through studying music of various ensembles and performance styles featuring orchestral instruments. Students learn to identify monophonic, homophonic and polyphonic textures in repertoire studied.

Assessment: Students will arrange a piece for orchestral instruments. Students will research an orchestral family and analyse repertoire performed by ensembles and soloists. Students will also engage in a range of aural and musicology tasks throughout the term.

and

Topic 3: Music in Advertising

Overview: Students learn about the genre of Blues and its harmonic and melodic structure. They do this via performance, composition and listening skills exercises. They will briefly look at Dixieland Jazz and the use of Dorian Mode in jazz improvisation.

Assessment: Students will create an original piece to be performed/recorded in the style of a Jingle. Students will prepare and perform a piece of music and voice over (from provided scripts). Students will also engage in a range of aural and musicology tasks throughout the term.

and

Topic 4: Music of the Stage

Overview: Students learn how to develop a concert program and performance for an audience. Students study styles such as: Opera, Musical Theatre, Comedy Performance, Dance and Circus

Assessment: Students will create an original piece to be performed. Students prepare and perform a piece of music that is within ability range to an audience in a class concert. Students will also engage in a range of aural and musicology tasks throughout the term.

Visual Arts

Head Teacher: Brett Cheshire/Mathew Baldwin (Relieving)

Class Teachers

8AX Ms Wilmott & Ms Eterna

8DY Ms Sewani & Ms Softley

8BX Ms Softley

8EY Mr Cheshire & Mr Baldwin

8CX Mr Cheshire

8FY Ms Wilmott/Eterna/Softley

Students have elected to study either Music or Visual Arts in Year 8. Not all students will be studying Music in Year 8.

Students spend the year rotating through a number of different Visual Arts topics. This is dependent upon the classroom to which they are allocated. Throughout Term 1, students will be involved in ONE of the following:

Topic 1: Fantastic Females (illustration and typography)

Overview: Students develop a series of work based on an inspirational female. They learn about the history of typography and lettering, and how to create a portrait using scratchboard.

Assessment:

- 1x portrait illustration / typographic illustration
- 1x scratchboard portrait of an inspiring woman
- Visual Arts Process Diary
- 1x related written/research assessment
- NB: only one research assessment per Semester in VA

OR

Topic 2: Sea Sculptures (ceramics)

Overview: Students learn about historical and contemporary approaches to using clay to create a vessel inspired by the flora from the sea.

Assessment:

- 1x sea inspired ceramic sculpture/vessel
- 1x related written/research assessment
- NB: only one research assessment per Semester in VA

OR

Topic 3: Architectural Forms (sculpture)

Overview: Students investigate historical and contemporary examples of architecture throughout the world and develop a wire/cane/balsa or paper sculpture inspired by these architectural forms.

Assessment:

- 1 x sculpture
- Visual Arts Process Diary
- 1x related written/research assessment
- NB: only one research assessment per Semester in VA

Languages

Head Teacher: Ed Kent

Class Teachers

8Y Chinese	Mr Wines	8X French	Mr Anthony
8Y French	Mr Anthony	8X Italian	Mr Kent & Mr Wines
8Y Indonesian	Ms Dwyer	8X Japanese	Ms Dib
8Y Italian	Ms Dib	8X Korean	Mr An

In Year 8 Languages, students have chosen one of the following languages to study: Chinese, French, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, or Korean. The work is differentiated depending on the prior knowledge of students. Topics vary across languages, but all languages focus on building a sound basis of communicative skill in order for students to be able to talk about aspects of their personal world.

Topic: Myself, my family

Overview: Students learn to introduce themselves and their families, with appropriate vocabulary and a focus on script for scripted languages. For students with previous experience of the language, they explore more thorough introductions including physical features, while students with a background in the language explore the concept of identity.

Assessment: Presentation of self and family in Language to the class (with props)

Technology

Head Teacher: Rosemary Patonay

Topic: Let's Accessorise

Overview: Students experiment with and design accessories using a variety of materials and technologies. They then produce/manufacture an array of marketable accessories. Accessories may include woven bracelets, laser cut and resin jewellery.

Assessment: Accessories and Design and Production Portfolio

OR

Topic: Pyjama Party

Overview: Students work with fibres, yarns and fabrics to develop machine manufacturing skills in the construction of a woven piece of apparel ie. pyjama pants.

Extension Work: Decorated pyjama top and other sleepwear accessories

Assessment: Pyjama Pants and Design and Production Portfolio

OR

Topic: Delicious Dairy

Overview: Students explore the Australian dairy industry and gain an understanding of the nutritional value food and focusing on healthy eating for adolescents. They develop an understanding of commercially available dairy products and their use as they further develop their food preparation skills. Using this knowledge they will create an eRecipe book.

Assessment: eRecipe Book